

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: CLUB OF ROME MEETING AND WORLD CONFERENCE AT GUANAJUATO

REF: MEXICO 8933

1. SUMMARY: THE EMBASSY WISHES TO ALERT DEPT TO POSSIBILITY THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA MAY BE PLANNING TO USE THE OCCASION OF A JOINT MEETING IN GUANAJUATO OF CLUB OF ROME AND THIRD WORLD LEADERS TO ADVANCE GOM IDEAS ON NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER AND PARTICULARLY THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF STATES. AS THE UNITED STATES WOULD LIKELY BE A MAIN TARGET ON SUCH AN OCCASION, DEPARTMENT/USIA MAY WISH BY SOME MEANS TO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME. END SUMMARY.

2. AS REPORTED REFTEL, PRES. ECHEVERRIA IN OCTOBER REPORTEDLY INVITED CLUB OF ROME, THEN MEETING IN WEST BERLIN, TO HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING IN GUANAJUATO, MEXICO. IN ACCEPTING INVITATION, CLUB OF ROME ALSO VOTED TO INVITE THE HEADS OF STATE OF THRID WORLD COUNTRIES. PRES. ECHEVERRIA HAS LONG BEEN INTERESTED IN CLUB OF ROME; AS HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, HE ATTENDED A MEETING OF CLUB OF ROME IN SALZBURG, AUSTRIA, IN EARLY

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1974 (VIENNA A-73). THE MEXICO MEETING IS NOW PLANNED

FOR MAY 1975.

3. THE HEAD OF CLUB OF ROME, AURELIO PECCEI, VISITED MEXICO IN MID-DECEMBER. PRESS REPORTS OF PECCEI'S TRAVELS IN PROVINCES WITH ECHEVERRIA REPORT PECCEI COMPLIMENTING MEXICAN PRESIDENT ON HIS INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP IN PROMOTING A NEW WORLD ORDER AND MAKING PARTICULAR REFERENCES TO CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES.

4. IN SAME SPEECH (AT ZACAZONAPAN), PECCEI ATTRIBUTED DECLARATION OF COCOYOC (SEE MEXICO 8995) TO THE VISION, INTELLIGENCE AND DETERMINATION OF PRES. ECHEVERRIA. (AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, USG WAS CONCERNED OVER UNBALANCED NATURE OF COCOYOC DECLARATION (STATE 257412)). PECCEI ALSO COMPLIMENTED ECHEVERRIA ON HIS SPEECH BEFORE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE AT ROME. IN MORE EVEN-HANDED REVIEW OF WORLD PROBLEMS, PECCEI SAID SOLUTIONS DEMANDED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THE MEETING THAT WILL TAKE PLACE IN GUANAJUATO SHOULD BE UNDER THE MOTTO OF "LA SOLIDARIDAD PARA LA PAZ Y EL DESARROLLO".

5. PECCEI SAID THAT TOGETHER HE AND PRES. ECHEVERRIA HAD OUTLINED A PLAN TO HAVE IN THE YEAR 1975 A HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE IN HISTORIC CITY OF GUANAJUATO. THEY HOPED THAT THEY WOULD GATHER THERE SOME OF THE MEN WHO DECIDE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, THOSE WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DECISIONS -- THE TREMENDOUS DECISIONS CONCERNING THAT WHICH WE MUST DO AND THAT WHICH WE MUST NOT DO IN ORDER TO FACE UP TO GREAT PROBLEMS OF THE WORLD. "WE ARE COMING TO GUANAJUATO WITH MANY HOPES, WITH A GREAT DEAL OF PREPARATION, AND FROM GUANAJUATO I THINK WILL EMERGE A MESSAGE FOR ALL PEOPLES, BECAUSE IT ALREADY DEPENDS ON US ALONE AS TO WHAT THE FUTURE CAN BE." PECCEI SPOKE OF POPULATION PROBLEMS AS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE. FINALLY, IDENTIFYING HIMSELF AS A FELLOW LATIN WHO THINKS IN TERMS OF SUFFERING, PECCEI CALLED FOR ALL OF US TO GO FORWARD TOGETHER TOWARD THE BETTER THINGS OF THE WORLD.

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6. EMBASSY COMMENT AND SUGGESTIONS: TO THE BEST OF THE EMBASSY'S LIMITED KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT, CLUB OF ROME (AND ITS SPONSORED MIT PUBLICATION THE LIMITS OF GROWTH), HAS THUS FAR BEEN NEUTRAL WITH RESPECT TO RELATIONS BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. IF ANYTHING, CLUB OF ROME SEEMS TO HAVE FOCUSED ON DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT AT BUCHAREST POPULATION CONFERENCE AND AT ROME

FOOD CONFERENCE MANY OF THE ILLS OF THE WORLD WERE ATTRIBUTED TO THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND TO AN EXISTING UNJUST WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. THESE EVENTS LEAD US TO BELIEVE THAT WE CAN EXPECT MORE OF THE SAME FROM GUANAJUATO.

7. ON ASSUMPTION THAT PECCEI AND OTHER MEMBERS MIGHT NOT WISH TO SEE WORK OF CLUB OF ROME OVERLY POLITICIZED, AN APPROACH TO HIM AND OTHER KEY MEMBERS, E.G., PROF. CARROLL WILSON OF MIT, ALEXANDER KING (OECD) OR VICTOR URQUIDI (MEXICO), MIGHT RESULT IN A DIFFERENT TYPE OF MEETING AND A MORE BALANCED OUTCOME. IN ADDITION, AND WE ARE LESS SANGUINE ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESS, USG AND SOME OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES MIGHT SEEK FROM GOM AN INVITATION TO GUANAJUATO FOR EITHER OFFICIALS OR PROMINENT PRIVATE CITIZENS IN FIELDS OF POPULATION, ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, ETC. OUR BASIS FOR SUCH A REQUEST COULD BE THAT TO HAVE ANY MEANING AT ALL, CLUB OF ROME TYPE MEETING MUST INVOLVE DEVELOPED AS WELL AS DEVELOPING OR "THIRD WORLD" COUNTRIES.

8. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO, RAFFAELE MARRAS, TOLD AMBASSADOR JOVA THAT PECCEI, WHEN HE WAS IN MEXICO, WAS ALOOF AND SECRETIVE REGARDING CLUB OF ROME'S PLANS FOR GUANAJUATO MEETING. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA TOLD PECCEI IN MARRAS' PRESENCE THAT HE WISHED A GRANDIOSE MEETING OF AT LEAST 1,000 WITH SOME 16 CHIEFS OF STATE ATTENDING AND DID NOT SEEM CONCERNED BY MARRAS' OBSERVATION THAT THIS TYPE OF MEETING NOT CONDUCIVE TO WORKMANLIKE ATMOSPHERE. JOVA

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